

REMARKS:

Claims 1 and 4-15 are pending.

Applicant is in receipt of the Advisory Action mailed September 12, 2006, notifying Applicant that the claims were not allowable in the form submitted.

Per the Examiner teleconference of September 25, 2006, Applicant herewith submits the presently amended claims. Support for these amendments to the claims is found at page 5, paragraph 13, which discloses the rationale behind administration of an oral topically active corticosteroid in an effective amount which would maintain a GVL reaction and reduce or eliminate the number of cancer cells within the patient. Support for the dosage of the corticosteroid administration is found at page 8, paragraph 22, which discloses the dosage range of about 0.1 mg/day to about 8 mg/day. Additional disclosure regarding the two-pill formulation is also found at page 8, paragraph 22.

Nothing within the present amendments to the claims is taught in the cited art raised by Examiner. The art of record discusses use of beclomethasone as a means of treating or preventing graft-versus-host disease (GVHD) through its effect in the intestine. However, the claims as presently presented read only on the effect of beclomethasone on particular types of blood cancers. Furthermore, the timing of administration contemplated by the claims in their present form would inherently be before the onset of GVHD. As noted in the specification at page 2, paragraph 3, the GVL effect is an attack on cancer cells by the blood cell from a bone marrow

transplantation. The modulation of the GVL reaction will prevent escalation of the GVL effect into GVHD. Thus, the methods of the present claims consider the effect of beclomethasone on cancer, not GVHD. As these limitations are now expressed in the language of the claims as presently presented, Applicant's respectfully request Examiner allow the application to proceed to allowance.


The claims in their present form satisfy the requirements laid out by Examiner in both the Advisory Action, as well as the teleconference noted above.

Applicant is thankful for Examiner's helpful comments during the course of the teleconference and requests allowance of the present application in light of the claim amendments.

Applicant is submitting this response with a Request for Reconsideration. The Office is hereby authorized to deduct the necessary fees from Deposit Account No 502-235. If there are any questions or comments, Applicant's attorney may be reached at the telephone number state below.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 27, 2006



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